Question on Notice

No. QON126

Asked on 20 February 2007

Mr Hayward asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR LUCAS) -

QUESTION:

Will he advise if and when the overpass bridge which crosses the M1 at Burpengary joining New Settlement Road with Deception Bay Road will be upgraded or duplicated?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Kallangur for the question.

The South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program (SEQIPP) provides for the upgrading of Deception Bay Road between the Bruce Highway and Lipscombe Road in the period 2009-10 to 2014-15.

The Department of Main Roads 2006-07 to 2010-11 Roads Implementation Program (RIP) allocates a total of \$96 million for the proposed upgrade of Deception Bay Road including, \$553,000 in 2006-07, \$600,000 in 2007-08, \$54.5 million in 2008-09 to 2010-11, with the remaining expenditure of \$40 million allocated in future years.

This project will upgrade the remaining 3.4km section of two-lane road to a four-lane standard and includes a duplication of the Deception Bay Road highway overpass. The duplication of the overpass bridge at the Bruce Highway interchange is an integrated part of the upgrade project. The bridge will be upgraded to six lanes and will incorporate pedestrian and cyclist facilities to cater for current and future traffic and pedestrian demand.

Unprecedented growth in and around the interchange has meant that upgrading the bridge has been brought forward. Traffic volumes are up to 18,700 vehicles per day with 7% growth and congestion is common during peak periods.

During early 2006, the project team gathered community feedback regarding issues of concern and commenced environmental, traffic and engineering studies. Upgrade options were then developed and presented to the community for feedback in late 2006. Upgrade options are currently being assessed using the results from engineering, traffic, environmental studies and community feedback. It is expected the community will be informed of the preferred option in the middle of the year.

Main Roads will then undertake preliminary and detailed design of the preferred option with construction expected to commence in 2009-10. I am advised that Main Roads will consider the benefits of duplicating the bridge over the Bruce Highway ahead of the road duplication on Deception Bay Road.

A strategic approach to efficient and effective transport in this area is a primary objective of Main Roads, to support industry competitiveness and growth. Main Roads is progressing well with planning for the Deception Bay Road upgrade along with a number of other planning and construction activities in the area.

For example, planning for the four-lane upgrade of Morayfield Road between the Uhlmann Road roundabout and Gaffield Street and the Bribie Island Road from Aerodrome Road to Saint Road is well underway. The department is also on track with the construction of the \$86 million Caboolture Northern Bypass with completion expected later this year. Upgrading the state-controlled road network in the Caboolture and surrounding areas is necessary to accommodate the increased traffic volumes generated from sustained commercial and residential development within these designated key metropolitan centres.

The \$240 million Bruce Highway upgrade project between Boundary Road and Caboolture involves upgrading the highway from four to six lanes and examining longer term requirements for eight lanes.

The upgraded section of the Bruce Highway from Boundary Road to Uhlmann Road was officially commissioned by the Honourable Jim Lloyd MP, federal Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads and the Honourable Andrew McNamara MP, Parliamentary Secretary representing the Minister for Transport and Main Roads on 12 March 2007. The project has already significantly reduced congestion and improved safety for transport operators, tourists and local traffic, creating more efficient road transport and allowing for continued growth in one of the fastest growing areas of the state. The Department of Main Roads delivered the \$108 million project on time and within budget, completing another vital link in the Bruce Highway upgrade between the Gateway Motorway and Caboolture.

Construction of the bypass interchange connection is well underway with completion expected later this year. The balance of this \$132 million section is currently being designed by ARUP and will be constructed under an Early Contractor Involvement process. Using this type of delivery allowed Main Roads to invite construction tenders in February 2007, with project completion forecast for late 2008, some three months earlier than forecast using a conventional design and construct contract.

This suite of major road upgrade projects in the area will support this rapidly developing region as a significant growth area in business, construction and investment within the corridor north of Brisbane.